

Collection

W. B. G.

1863

[HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.]

By Mr. DUPONT.

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## A BILL

To be offered as a Substitute for the Bill reported by the Committee on Military Affairs to consolidate companies, battalions, regiments and brigades.

- 1 *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact.*
- 2 *That whenever a company shall be composed of less than thirty-*
- 3 *five men, a battalion of less than one hundred and seventy-five*
- 4 *men, and a regiment of less than three hundred and fifty men,*
- 5 *exclusive of commissioned officers, they shall be consolidated*
- 6 *with other companies, battalions and regiments in the same*
- 7 *brigade until the maximum number of such company shall be*
- 8 *attained; unless the whole number of men in the brigade be*
- 9 *less than one full regiment, in which case, it shall suffice to*
- 10 *form a battalion or regiment out of the whole brigade: Provi-*
- 11 *ded, The number of men therein exceeds the maximum herein*
- 12 *established for a battalion or regiment.*
- 1 *SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That should the whole number*
- 2 *of men in the brigade be less than a battalion or regiment, as*
- 3 *determined by the foregoing section, they shall be placed in*
- 4 *other companies, battalions and regiments, and these, as well as*

5 all other battalions and regiments thus consolidated, shall be as-  
6 signed to other brigades from the same State, if there be any;  
7 otherwise, in any brigade or brigades in the same *corps d'armée*;  
8 *Provided*, That no brigade shall be consolidated which shall  
9 contain, at the time of consolidation, two regiments of **more**  
10 than five hundred men, exclusive of commissioned officers, **or**  
11 whose battalions or regiments may be so consolidated, as to  
12 form two such regiments.

1 SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That from the supernumerary  
2 officers of the companies, battalions, regiments and brigades  
3 thus consolidated, the President shall select the officers to be  
4 assigned to the new consolidated organizations; and he may as-  
5 sign a Brigadier General to the command of a regiment; but in  
6 that case, this officer shall only be entitled to the commis-  
7 sioned and non-commissioned staff of that command.

1 SEC. 4. That the remaining supernumerary officers of the con-  
2 solidated corps shall be allowed thirty days to organize them-  
3 selves into companies, battalions or regiments, in the arm of  
4 the service which they shall prefer, to be commanded by offi-  
5 cers appointed by the President, and to be selected among them.  
6 Any officer resigning his commission, may avail himself of the  
7 privilege accorded to him by the Act entitled, "An Act to au-  
8 thorize the formation of new commands to be composed of  
9 supernumerary officers who may resign to join such commands,

10 and to limit and restrict the appointment of officers in certain  
11 cases," approved the 14th June, 1864.

1 Sec. 5. That on the exchange of the officers now in captivity  
2 who may be thrown out of service by the consolidation con-  
3 templated herein, the President may select and appoint any of  
4 them to commands which they are competent, by their rank, to  
5 be assigned: the others shall be considered as supernumerary  
6 officers, with all the rights granted to such in the preceding  
7 section of this Act.

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